

Message Text

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72

ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 PM-09 NSC-10 SS-14 RSC-01 EB-11

NASA-04 OST-04 OTP-02 DODE-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00

INR-09 NSAE-00 L-03 ACDA-19 GAC-01 MC-02 RSR-01 /123 W
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R 151440 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7800

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: TSPS, OVIP, XT, IT

SUBJECT: POST APOLLO NASA ADMINISTRATOR VISIT

1. FLETCHER AND FRUTKIN MET WITH MIN OF SCIENCE ROMITA AND SENIOR ITALIAN SPACE OFFICIALS MARCH 14, 1973. MEETING CLEARLY RECONFIRMED STRONG ITALIAN COMMITMENT TO PARTICIPATE IN POST APOLLO PROGRAM ON THE SPACE LABORATORY. AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED (ROME 708) CIPE (CABINET COMMITTEE DEALING WITH BUDGETARY AND PLANNING MATTERS) APPROVED \$64 MILLION FOR USE POST APOLLO PROGRAM.

2. ROMITA INDICATED HE IS ANXIOUS TO MOVE FORWARD AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE AND TO FORMALIZE COMMITMENTS OF PARTICIPATION. IN PRINCIPLE ITALY IS READY TO SIGN EUROPEAN COUNTRY/ ESRO AGREEMENT OPEN FOR SIGNATURE SINCE MARCH 1, 1973 BUT SHOWED SOME CONCERN ABOUT FACT THAT ITALY CANNOT LEGALLY BIND ITSELF UNTIL AFTER PARLIAMENT HAS APPROVED THE MONEY BILL. IT WAS POINTED OUT TO ROMITA THAT IN PAST GOI HAS MADE FORMAL GOVERNMENT TO GOVERNMENT BILATERAL AGREEMENTS WITH U. S. IN SPACE FIELD AFTER CIPE APPROVAL WITHOUT PARLIAMENT APPROVAL. IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT A SIMILAR APPROACH COULD BE TAKEN IN THIS
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INSTANCE. MEMBERS OF THE ITALIAN DELEGATION THOUGHT THIS APPROACH MIGHT BE POSSIBLE AND THE MINISTER WILL STUDY THE MATTER EXPEDITIOUSLY.

3. IN PASSING, ROMITA AGAIN EXPRESSED HIS INTEREST IN ITALIAN PARTICIPATION AS SUBCONTRACTORS ON THE SHUTTLE.

4. ROMITA INFORMED FLETCHER OF PLANS OF ITALIAN COMPANY TELE-SPAZIO TO BUILD A GROUND STATION FOR RECEIPT OF ERTS DATA. TELESPIAZIO'S PROPOSAL NOW BEFORE GOI TO GET GOI ENDORSEMENT AFTER WHICH DETAILS WILL BE SUBMITTED TO NASA. OUTLINE ITALIAN PROPOSAL AS AVAILABLE TO EMB. WILL BE REPORTED SEPTTEL. STATION ALLEGEDLY COULD BE IN OPERATION SIX TO TEN MONTHS AFTER GOI ENDORSEMENT.

5. THE ABOVE WAS NOT RPT NOT CLEARED WITH FLETCHER BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE. VOLPE

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 15 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: hilburpw
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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